sionally an anomalous appearing individual plant may be found in which the fertile strobilus is reduced to a few millimeters in length with a much prolonged sterile apex. This rarely encountered variant was discovered and collected (*Lakela* 19576), on Sept. 24, 1955, at the Quetico-Superior Wilderness Research Center, Basswood Lake, Lake Co. The strobili are well shown in the photograph by Clifford Ahlgren.

In studying herbarium materials, an earlier overlooked collection (*Lakela* 9501) made by the author was discovered among some 60 sheets of St. Louis County plants. A single plant of this collection, from granite ledges of Kabetogama Lake, has distinctly tufted strobili. The other plant on the same sheet is typical var. *dendroideum*. The Kabetogama Lake site is about 80 miles northwest of Basswood Lake, thus extending the range of f. *proliferum* along the Canadian border.—OLGA LAKELA, *University of Minnesota, Duluth Branch.*

HART'S-TONGUE IN MICHIGAN AGAIN.—In the last number of the Fern Journal Mr. Dale J. Hagenah reported the good news of the discovery of a large and flourishing colony of hart's-tongue in northern Michigan. We have just received the following letter from Mr. Hagenah:

"I must report that I have sad news about the stand. The area was lumbered over last winter although it was not clear cut. Apparently the company was interested only in the real prime timber. M. T. Hall and I were there this fall. We could still find quite a lot of hart's-tongue and in terrain which is not likely to be damaged by any further lumbering operations, as it is an area of huge boulders with only small timber. However, this area would be at most about one-fourth or less of the total. We do not feel that we can tell much about the remainder until next year, as the combination of timber cutting and a hot, dry summer made the area

look very sad, but we are hopeful since some of the Bruce Peninsula stands appear to have withstood severe conditions. The land was in private ownership, but we hear that the owners will sell after they complete lumbering, so it may be possible to find a way to get the fern area into suitable ownership, so that it can be protected from further damage. There is still a very large area which has not been botanized, and so there is still some possibility of other colonies being found."

Perhaps some conservation societies will interest themselves in the case?—C. V. MORTON.

## Recent Fern Literature

"FERNS OF MALAYA,"[1] by Prof. R. E. Holttum is easily the most important book on ferns published in many years —the result of a lifetime of concentrated work and thought. There are about 500 species (and many additional varieties) of ferns in Malaya, about one-twentieth of all those of the world, a large percentage, considering the small size of the area. Apparently, this region of rainy tropical jungle and moist mountains provides the ideal situation for ferns, which if not exactly a dominant part of the vegetation are certainly an important component.

The specific descriptions are commendably long and detailed for a floristic work. Of course, most valuable of all is the fact that they are completely original and are not quoted from other sources, and thus include many new observations on morphology and relationships. The wonderful drawings are also wholly original, and are probably the work of Professor Holttum himself; there is no indication of assistance from a professional artist.

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[1] In "A Revised Flora of Malaya," vol. II, pp. 1–643 *fig. 1–362. pl. 1–3.* 1954. For sale by the Botanic Gardens, Singapore. $20.00, Malayan ($6.00, U. S.).